

# The WPA Strikers Fought for You -- Contribute to WPA Defense Committee

# THE NORTHWEST ORGANIZER

Official Organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council  
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 257 PLYMOUTH AVE. N.

As from this hour you use your power, The World must follow you

Stand all as one Till right is done! Believe and dare and do!

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPT. 14, 1939

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## On the National Picket Line

Just about the only labor news which has managed to make the pages of the capitalist press is the PWOC-Armour dispute. According to the latest dispatches the situation is rapidly approaching a nation-wide strike which is likely to involve not only Armour but also the rest of the Big Four.

Last week Secretary Perkins asked that all action for a strike be postponed pending a conference between the belligerents in her office this Wednesday in Washington. The PWOC, through Carl Van Bittner, accepted the invitation and issued orders to all of its locals forbidding a strike until further notice. However, the Armour management refused to meet with the PWOC and curtly refused the Secretary's offer of conciliation.

Armour demands that the PWOC submit its proposed contracts to the individual plant managers and negotiate on that basis. According to one of the PWOC officials in Omaha, no word has been received by the locals as yet to tell them how to proceed. However, he believed that they would present their contract to the local Armour management, and that it would be turned down here.

In Minnesota the PWOC has already served notice that it intends to strike not only Armour, but also Wilson, Cudahy, and Swift in the several packing centers in that state. Governor Stassen has been invited by the CIO to sit in on a proposed conference between Lloyd Haney, the PWOC officials, and the various plant managers.

An interesting sidelight on the war comes from Dr. Thomas R. Rivers, head of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Dr. Rivers says that an epidemic of influenza, of world wide proportions, is almost certain to follow in the wake of war. He also said that typhus, trench fever, dysentery, meningitis and European sleeping sickness are more than likely to appear.

Science has never found an effective weapon with which to fight the dread Flu bug. During the last war it raged almost unchecked, not only in the war zone, but even more virulently here in America. Thousands of soldiers died in the training camps of the disease. More thousands of civilians succumbed. Sulfanilamide, the newly discovered drug which is so effective against most microbes, has no effect on the Flu germ.

Dr. Rivers, who is also president of the International Congress of Microbiology which is now meeting in New York, also reported on the use of disease germs as a weapon of war. He said that no nation could plausibly consider the use of germs to start epidemics among the enemy, for two reasons. First, it is almost impossible artificially to start an epidemic, even by planting germs in water and food. And second, if such an epidemic were started it would react on the originator as badly as on his opponent. Epidemics are spread by wind and contact. And as Dr. Rivers said "Germs neither recognize or stop at front lines."

Despite newspaper talk and apparent newspaper policy tending toward an anti-war spirit, the American people are being very cleverly psychologized toward acceptance of war as inevitable. Even now the spirit is prevalent.

(Continued on page 4)

## Diamond Iron Strike Won By 383, 544

The three-week strike of the General Drivers Union Local 544 and the Machinists Union Local 383 against the Diamond Iron firm came to an end last Thursday when both unions won their demands, embodied in signed contracts.

In the 544 pact, hourly wages for stockmen are set at 65c; for shipping clerks, 77c. No drivers were involved. The 44-hour week is stipulated, and the same weekly wage will prevail when the shift is made to the 42-hour week this October, and the 40-hour week next year.

Over 120 men from both unions were involved in the strike, the Machinists having the bulk of the men.

## Erickson Oil Sues Union Movement

Following out the pattern of the Direct Oil Service Station fight against the AFL Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977, Joseph E. Erickson of the scab Erickson Oil company has filed suit in district court against the Minneapolis union movement.

Among the defendants are Local 977, Local 544, the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council and all officers of these organizations, the Northwest Organizer, the Labor Review, etc.

The suit is to be heard Thursday, September 14th.

Attorneys Tom Kochelmacher and Gilbert Carlson will represent the defendants.

Erickson is seeking a temporary injunction against organized labor. In a 16-page document setting forth reasons why the court should join him in fighting against the union, Erickson charges that labor "conspired" against him to injure his "good name." No place in the document does he explain why he refuses to sign a union agreement with Local 977, nor does he tell about the finky deal he made with Van Nordstrand and Jacobson of the CIO.

A resolution will be introduced before the Duluth convention asking the State Federation of Labor to condemn the strike-breaking moves of the CIO in the Erickson strike, and to support the Filling Station Attendants Union Local 977.

## Pulp Workers Get New Agreement

Minneapolis Local 259 and St. Paul Local 265 of the International Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers Union have just signed a new two-year closed shop agreement with the five St. Paul and four Minneapolis paper box factories in this area. Upward adjustments in wage scales, paid vacations and other improvements in conditions are stipulated in the new pact, signed by the following companies: Quality Park, Weinhagen, Globe, Kaplan and Mullery in St. Paul; Pioneer, Heywood, Flour City and Fisher in Minneapolis.

## California Milk Plant Workers Win Closed Shop

Modesto, Calif.—Teamsters Local 386 announced this week that it has secured closed shop contracts with all milk plants of this area with but one exception. The agreements cover all workers connected with plant operation, inside and outside. All men hired during the lifetime of the contract must be union members.

## Another Year, Another Puffer-Hubbard Strike



Just one year ago the workers at the Puffer-Hubbard company, 2601 32nd Avenue South, were forced out on strike when the management refused the union's demands. The Furniture Workers Union Local 1859 won that strike after 5 weeks.

This year the management pulled the same trick. It stalled on the contract and demanded its workers

take a 10 percent wage cut and give up their seniority rights.

Last Friday noon the men met at the plant and voted unanimously to call a strike immediately and keep it effective until the company signed with the union. A 24-hour-a-day picket line has been established. Above is seen one of the picketing contingents "keeping her shut down tight."

## AN OPEN LETTER . . . . . To the Minneapolis Times-Tribune

Editors, Minneapolis Times-Tribune

Dear Sirs:  
During the past several weeks your paper, addressing itself to the fathers, to the mothers, and to the youth of the Northwest, has made fervent appeals "against any movement to involve the United States in the present European war" and against sending "American boys abroad as soldiers."

Your supporting editorials have shown a deep understanding of the economic causes of the war and of the fact that the first victim of the war is democracy itself. Indeed, the views you have expressed on this war and the opposition you have voiced to this war are shared by millions of workers and farmers throughout the Northwest. Your paper has in fact reflected the deep hatred for imperialist war felt by the common people of the Middle West.

You have circulated pledge sheets asking the women of Minneapolis and the Northwest to register their stand against any movement to involve this country in the war.

Urging the youth to resist the war, you have written: "The long, grisly hand of war is reaching out to grasp the youth of the war . . . That hand must not reach into the United States. It clutched the youth of our land once before. It must never do it again."

"THE YOUTH OF TODAY MUST MAKE KNOWN THEIR DETERMINATION NOT TO BE FORCED INTO A EUROPEAN WAR (your emphasis)."

"The youth of the land must make it plain, that under no consideration, short of actual invasion of our shores, will they go to war . . . The sons never must be gotten into the trenches. The sons must see that they never get there . . ."

In speaking to the fathers you explain: "There will be no moderation in this war, not until the Maginot and Siegfried lines are choked with dead. There will be no decency, no humanity, no recognition that the opposing forces are made up of human beings," and you ask the fathers, too, to speak up against American participation in the war that is raging.

And You Are Right  
For you, there are no illusions about the effect of the war on democratic liberties. "(The democracy) has no other choice than to exchange its democratic system for one which is almost indistinguishable from a thoroughgoing dictatorship," you write in your editorial of September 7th.

"That is precisely what Great Britain and France have done the last few days. In the case of France, of course, the movement towards totalitarianism has been going on for months, as sweeping decrees have curtailed the people's normal liberties. But with the advent of war, both nations were forced to make the final plunge into a system of highly autocratic controls . . ."

Again You Are Right  
And you show that you understand that here in the United States, too, dictatorship would come in war time. "Even the sturdiest bulwark of all—the United States—could not stand the

## Labor Bails Out All WPA Strikers

### Dubuque Taxi Drivers In New Gain

Dubuque, Iowa—Drivers Local 421 won paid vacations for drivers employed by the Black and White Cab company as a result of negotiations recently concluded. A minimum wage of \$18, and commission of 10 percent on collections between \$40 and \$50, and 15 percent on more than \$50 per week was also secured.

Under terms of the contract, 16 of the drivers will receive paid vacations of one week after a year with the company. Any driver working six months in any calendar year will receive three days paid vacation. There are about 22 drivers during the winter months.

### Labor Temple Association Posts Property as Surety for Bail Bond—WPA Strike Prisoners Released Wednesday Afternoon—Labor Movement Clears First Hurdle in Winning Freedom for All Strikers—Fourteen WPA Women Workers Arrested Monday, Released on Own Recognizance—Legal Defense for All Strikers Being Prepared

Shortly after noon on Wednesday, an attorney for the Central Labor Union's WPA Defense Committee appeared in federal court and posted bail bonds for the WPA strike prisoners, who were immediately released. With the men out of jail the WPA Defense Committee turned its attention to the matter of protecting any other WPA workers whom the government may indict, and to planning the legal defense for the strikers when their cases come up in district court in a few weeks.

### Cement Block Firms Call Lockout

In an attempt to break down the morale of the city's cement block workers, the nine cement block companies in Minneapolis declared a lockout against the Cement Block Section of General Drivers Union Local 544 on Monday morning. The union immediately declared a strike against the employer-combine and established picket lines around all plants.

Negotiations for a new contract between 544 and the block industry had been carried on some time, but with no results. Two weeks ago the employers sent the requested 10-day lockout notice to Stassen's Haney at the same time that the union sent its 10-day strike notice. The 10-day period expired at midnight Sunday and Monday morning the lockout was in effect.

The bosses have certainly misused through this move. It so happens that the cement block workers compose one of the largest and most militant sections of Local 544, a group of workers which don't know the meaning of defeat.

The following companies declared the lockout: Acme Stone, Oscar W. Berg, Crown Sidwalk, Glacier Sand & Gravel, Hedberg, Freidheim, Marshall Concrete Products, Minneapolis Concrete Products, Roberts Cement Block and Tage Swanson Concrete Block.

### Seattle Union Wins Sliding Wage Scale

Seattle, Wash.—In renewing its contract with the Seattle cracker manufacturers, the Cracker Workers Union has inserted a clause providing for automatic wage increases if and when the cost of living increases.

The contract reads: "Due to the unsettled state of world affairs, it is agreed that should the cost of living show an increase of 5 percent or more, then only, shall the union have the right, upon 15 days' notice, to open the wage schedule of this agreement for adjustment, when conferences shall be held, and any decision reached shall become effective immediately."

### Negotiations Opened on Area Drivers Contract

The first meeting between the Union Area Committee of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the Operators Area Committee to negotiate a new over-the-road agreement took place Tuesday morning at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago.

Last Friday night a special meeting of the stockholders in the Labor Temple Association voted to post the association's property as surety for bail bonds for the WPA strikers. This generous gesture of the Labor Temple Association has won it the esteem of all organized labor. All the stockholders are unions. The time between Friday night and Wednesday noon was spent by the WPA Defense Committee in securing all the necessary signatures, negotiating for the bail bonds, satisfying the rigid requirements of the court, etc.

Jubilant at Freedom  
The WPA workers were jubilant at their release and immediately got in touch with their families. Only five WPA workers remained in jail, all Workers Alliance members. A CIO defense group was looking after their interests.

Shortly after noon, all the released prisoners were marched from the jail to the federal court building where individual bond was posted for each one and then all were given their longed-for freedom. Each was instructed to appear back in court September 26th when the trial of the strikers will be set. Gilbert Carlson, one of the three attorneys retained by the WPA Defense Committee, represented the prisoners.

Seven More Indicted  
Late last week seven more men indicted by the federal grand jury were arraigned before Judge Gunnar H. Nordby. All pleaded not guilty. The seven are Herman Erickson, Arthur Seibert, Ralph Johnston, Ernest Starke, Otto Valrath, Alfred Christianson and Detlen Weick.

Monday morning fourteen women WPA workers marched to the marshal's office and voluntarily surrendered, having learned that they were under indictment. After being booked, all were released on their own recognizance.

Before their release, however, they were fingerprinted and asked if they had any identification marks or operation scars. One of the FBI men doing the questioning asked one of the women if her teeth were her own.

She said: "Sure they are. I had to pay for them."

Some of the prisoners were women over 50 years old, home owners, taxpayers and long-time citizens of Minneapolis. It made no difference to the U. S. marshals and G-men. They fingerprinted the women anyhow and closely questioned them about their personal affairs.

The women involved are Nina Anderson, Mary Frances Carney, Florence McGinty, Pearl Richards, Inez Boer, Florence Lindsay, Ethel Gamash, Edith Kettleson, Emma Roman, Edythe Wagner, Ida E. Dunlap, Randy Anderson, Marjorie Almqvist and Luella Jane Anderson.

Expect State Labor Support  
It was anticipated that the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, meeting in convention in Duluth, would take some positive action in defense of the Minneapolis WPA strike victims.

# Make Minneapolis a Union Town



# Puffer-Hubbard Stalls Once Too Often - Strike On

### Men Walk Out Friday Noon, Establish 24-Hour-Day Picket Line—Union Waits Months for New Agreement, but Company Refuses Demands, Proposes Pay Cut Instead—Strike Backed by Policy Committee, Labor Movement

Deeply disgusted at the stalling tactics of the Puffer-Hubbard company, the workers at this plant called a special meeting last Friday noon and voted unanimously not to go back to work until the company signed a new agreement with their union, Furniture Workers Union Local 1859.

The workers immediately threw a picket line around the plant, and have maintained it ever since, day and night, in four-hour shifts.

**Added Incentive**  
A short meeting was held Friday afternoon with the management, in which the latter told the employees the company would start operations again Monday morning and anyone could come back to work who wanted to—under terms of the 1937 agreement. The 1937 conditions amount to a straight 10c hourly wage cut.

Needless to say, no one went back to work Monday and the management found it could NOT start operations. Even the cat marched out on the picket line. The cat was the union mascot during the last strike at the Puffer-Hubbard plant in 1938, when Local 1859 walked out September 9th and stayed out five weeks to win its demands.

**Long Negotiations Barren**  
The strike was no hastily-called affair. For many weeks Local 1859 has sought to reach a fair agreement with the management. As far back as August 14th, the union sent its 10-day strike notice to Stassen's Haney. Even then, the company failed to agree to a decent contract. Indeed, the management insisted that its workers take a 10c hourly wage cut and scrap their plant seniority clause for a ridiculous plan of the management whereby the boss would establish 22 separate seniority classifications.

Though only about 50 men were working at the time the strike was called, fully 75 have been active on the picket line. The discrepancy is accounted for by the fact that this is a slack season and over a score of workers have been laid off.

A trailer-commissary will very likely be set up near the plant, at 2601 32nd Avenue South, in the near future.

Local 1859 is demanding a new working agreement, with wage increases and plant seniority.

**"She'll Stay Down"**  
Early Tuesday morning the company moved in an empty box car to "put on a show" for the strikers. They hoped to imply that they were moving machinery, or some such thing.

"But the plant is down, and she'll stay shut down till we get our contract," say the strikers. The strike has been approved by the Policy Committee of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, and has the backing of the entire organized labor movement.

## Welcome to New National Labor Paper

The first issue of the new International Laundry Worker, official monthly paper of the Laundry Workers' International Union, was published in Minneapolis last week. Rubin Latz is managing editor of the new sheet, which has a national circulation.

The paper contains a front-page article by Farrell Dobbs, general organizer of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, extending greetings to the revitalized Laundry Workers' International which emerged from the recent convention at Denver.

"It is plain to all who care to see," wrote Dobbs, "that the powerful combinations among the laundry employers make it imperative that there be the highest degree of solidarity among the workers. The first step toward achieving this bond of unity is co-operation between the various unions who share jurisdiction in this industry."

"The drivers and the inside laundry workers have already demonstrated in several instances by practical action the power of united effort. It is to be hoped that this bond of cooperation will in the future become even more secure and fruitful."

DEMAND UNION CLERKS

## Teamsters Council To Hold Boo-ya Outing on Oct. 22

A unique affair in the annals of the Minneapolis union movement will be held Sunday, October 22nd, when the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council presents a boo-ya feast at Costello's Grove, 92nd and Cedar. Boo-ya, in case you don't know, is a sort of stew or slungullion made out of beef, chicken and all parts of the vegetable kingdom.

Loren Johnson of the Bakery Drivers Union Local 289 was named by the last Teamsters Joint Council meeting to head the Boo-ya Committee. More details on the Boo-ya will appear next week.

## Mail Men Don't Like to Scab

Last Thursday the convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers adopted a resolution calling upon the U. S. Postoffice Department to exempt postmen from the necessity of passing through picket lines to deliver mail. Carriers protested they had been obliged to carry supplies for strikebreakers through such lines. The convention also charged that the government was fostering a speed-up system in the postal service.

bus the "Good Ship Progress," Ed?

Oscar Norgren is home from the hospital, but is still confined in bed. Oscar is surely having an uphill battle but we are all hoping for his speedy recovery.

Last Friday, September 8, the Puffer-Hubbard workers decided that the time had come to bring economic pressure to bear on the management in order to secure a contract for the coming year. The strike was called only after very serious consideration and was the only course left open to them. The company has showed very plainly that he is out to bamboozle the workers. The workers have complied with every requirement of the Stassen Slave Act and this has caused a great deal of lost time as the old contract expired over a month ago. During the course of negotiations, the management has sent letters to the homes of the workers with the object of breaking down their morale and to soften them up individually for a 10 cents an hour cut in wages. The company also proposed to do away with seniority by substituting departmental seniority, but the workers have seen through this ruse.

Neither rain nor cold nor hunger can stop the Creamette strikers from winning this battle. Every day finds them on the picket line in front of the company's factory at 428 North First.

**Unions Back Strike**  
The Minneapolis union movement is supporting Local 20120 to the limit. Over a score of unions have contributed to the strike fund. Local 471 is furnishing the pickets each day with dairy produce, and the Bakers Union Local 222 bring them their daily bread.

With backing like this, and with the consciousness of the justness of their cause, the Creamette workers mean to stick it out "if it takes all winter."

## Old Member of Local 221 Dies

C. Walters, a long-time member of the Ice Drivers Union Local 221 employed at the Cedar Lake Ice company, passed away a week ago last Sunday. He had no immediate family and officials of the union took charge of his funeral, held the following Tuesday. Members of Local 221 mourn the passing of this brother.

We hand folks over to God's mercy and show none ourselves.—GEORGE ELIOT.

The workers have a very able strike committee which they are all solidly behind. Such solidarity is unbeatable.

Thought for the day: That soaking the rich is only made possible by allowing the rich to soak the poor, for if the poor had not been soaked there would be no rich!

Thought for the next day: And the meek shall inherit the earth—When They Get Sassy Enough to Take It!

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## LOCAL 1859 Knots to You

By R. F. Gilmore

At the general membership meeting September 6, the old executive board was unanimously re-elected for another term. It is the wish of your officers in Local 1859 to tell you at this time that such solid support by the general membership is very gratifying, and that no stone shall be left unturned to secure for the members of 1859 as much of the fruits of labor as is possible under the profit system.

John Janosco gave a brilliant analysis of the WPA situation during the above meeting, and brought out the point that such an unjustifiable persecution of WPA workers can point to but one thing, and that is the development of a system of persecution and coercion which, if successful on the WPA workers, will be used in a big way on all union members.

At the executive board meeting last Friday a list of members was certified to represent 1859 at the Central Labor Union. It will be the duty of these men to bring back to the membership something of the picture of the struggles and aims of the other unions of the C.L.U.

Some of the members have expressed the idea that just a few of the good brothers were leaving the meetings shortly after having registered as being present. While observation showed that most who left returned shortly afterward, no check was officially made. It seems hardly likely that any worker would be so little concerned about his own welfare as to neglect the regular meeting of the only group which gives a tinker's dam whether he has a job or not.

Another rumor spiked. Up and down Plymouth avenue, flaunting a "just married" sign, drove the sedan and the driver was none other than good old Wally Fern. Says Wally: "Aw, it was just a rehearsal."

**Air-Loc Seating news:** Brother L. R. Heath wishes to thank his many friends for their thoughtfulness and kindness during his recent sorrow in the loss of his wife, Doris. "I doubt if my friends will ever realize how much those friendly gestures have helped me to carry on," Brother Heath said.

Diamondball season is officially closed, according to Athletic Director Cy Paulson. All players are requested to turn in their issued equipment. Please mark your name on your uniforms and put them in a bundle with name attached. This will make it easy to issue you the same uniform next year. Uniforms will be cleaned and stored in the office.

Clothes may make the man but fine fishing does not make a fisherman, according to Klas Kallgren. Klas hooked a good-sized fish at Lake Independence last Saturday. In his rule book, "How to Land 'Em," it states on page 7, (rule 4): "Keep the pole under water." He did and the fish got away and is still under water, by Jimmy!

The short and snappy general membership meeting seems to meet with general approval.

Looks like Ed Grondahl is going to do his share towards bringing back prosperity. We can expect to see Ed in a new Chevy any day now. Why not call the

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## Scissorbill Sam, The Boss's Man



My employer says we must not allow labor nationally to become like it is in Minneapolis.

# Creamette Workers Block Scab Goods

The eighth week of the strike of 52 men and girls of the Food and Candy Workers Union Local 20120 against the labor-hating Creamette company passed with the strikers more determined than ever to win their demands, including a 5c hourly wage increase.

The Creamette firm is making very little headway in its efforts to import from Chicago products of the scab Rossi firm and peddle them off on Twin Cities merchants.

Quigley, manager of the Creamette outfit, is now in Chicago acting as contact man between his boss and Rossi. Everytime an attempt is made to palm off the scab Rossi goods on some unsuspecting grocer, a member of Local 20120 is on the spot to inform the grocer of the Creamette strike and the reasons the men and girls are fighting. In every case, the grocers in both Minneapolis and St. Paul have cooperated 100 percent with the union and have refused to handle scab goods. The Rossi firm, incidentally, pays its workers in Chicago a sub-human wage and forces them to toil amid filthy conditions.

**Company Tied Speed-up**  
Another move of the company that sticks on the throat of the union is the attempt of the new manager to put over a killing speed-up system. Before the strike, this manager kept urging the workers to step it up, step it up, and made them understand that he expected still more speed from them. Just what tempo of production he would be satisfied with, he refused to tell either to the union or the labor relations fellow. The final straw was the manager's attempt to split the ranks of the union by drawing up two separate lists of employees, one to whom he was willing to give a very small raise and the other to whom he would make no concessions.

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Our unemployment list for this week carried about twenty names. . . . That Sixth Avenue North job slated for bids in October had better get started right away. . . . Long drawn out arguments at our meeting isn't doing anything in a constructive way to work out our problems nor is it making these

Please do not forget that you have a bowling date for Friday, Sept. 22. Time for the first shift will be 7 p. m. Your schedule will be in your hands by the first of next week.

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## TAXI TOPICS

**By Curly and Lunde**  
Sunday, September 17, the last cruise of our Local 958 pike fishers will take place on the good ship "Bayview Hotel." Make arrangements with Emil Kariger or drop your fare in the Y. C. "grievance box." It might be cool this time at Mille Laes so warm clothes are in order. We leave the Y. C. garage this time at six ante meridian, leave docks at the lake at nine o'clock. Transportation will be arranged for those without cars at the garage.

**Special:** Maxie B. lost his hat 18 miles from shore on the last "duke fishing" trip so see him for reward if you find it. . . . Chuck Smith should wear his overcoat while swimming as Mille Laes might be cold. . . . "Whaler Wiggins" will be tied to boat while fishing so the big one won't pull him in. . . .

**A perfect "32,"** Ed (Judge) Harlan expects a prosperous winter; he engaged a harness-maker to encircle his portly mid-riff with leather. This belt is made in sections and Ed has some extra ones to add when and if he gets fatter.

The Liberty Blue and White owners are testing the Glove-Box taximeter and are well satisfied with this new type of fare register. As the name implies it fits in the glove compartment and trips and units reading is taken from the front face of the meter. This has the double advantage of being out-of-the-way of the front seat passenger giving more seat room and less likely to be bumped into.

They say most pilots get their start by hanging around airports; by the same token maybe Jack Pender has an ambition to become a bus-driver. Brother Jack has driven all the good cars of another era through roads that we only hear about now-days.

Brad Nees and Danny Upton of the B&W are all through taking Slim Friesen out fishing. All "Slim" needs is a hook, line and hunk of bait coupled with a draught of two of his favorite "mineral water" and the finny

meetings any too interesting for the rank and file. . . . These new dumpers are bringing to a head quicker than we expected that prediction of Mickey Dunne's last spring that in a year our ITO would be out of the WPA business. . . . Labor-politicos in a new field for ITO truckers will soon be asked to give us a boost.

Was Joe Donn having a nice friendly chat with the policeman or did the motor-bike officer have to catch up with him to say it isn't right to start so late for work because you have to forget all the traffic rules to get there on time?

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## Unfair Mortuaries

**Do Not Patronize—The following funeral homes are unfair to Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912:**  
Rainville Funeral Home, 222 East Hennepin  
Enger Funeral Home, Grant at Park  
Davies Mortuary, 1403 Harmon Place  
Gill Brothers, 1414 Laurel Avenue  
McDivitt Funeral Home, 2835 East Lake  
Knaeble company, 513 Plymouth Avenue North  
Welander Quist, Hennepin at Dupont, Chicago at 19th, West Broadway at Fremont  
Albinson Mortuary, Chicago Avenue at 17th

**To All Friends of Organized Labor—In case you have the misfortune to have a death in your family, please telephone the Private Chauffeurs Union Local 912, at Geneva 4691, for a list of the undertaking establishments on Local 912's fair list.**

creatures are all his. Brother Friesen is a handy guy to have along though because he's so tall, wading across the average lake is possible for him.

We finally found out how Clark Danielson gets that heterogeneous collection of fishing tackle; he drags the lake till he pulls up a dead-head and even a sunken fence-post is usually good for a spoon-hook or two. . . . so simple.

Ralph "Rosy" Ryan lost his front teeth and will fight anybody who says the dentist didn't yank 'em. Soup tastes pretty good at this time of the year anyway, Rosy.

Pretty good plug for us Cedric Adams had in his column asking that buses and taxis also cross the Washington span on football days. Let's all see if we can help put this across as it means at least two extra runs to the game for each of us every game.

Watch those new school stop-signs, they pop up in some unusual places.

## Watt Notes

Ho-Hum! Vacation's over and pretty soon our old operators will be going back to school.

Nice going, Brandes.

We wonder if Spencer will be wearing the professional toga again this winter.

Famous last words: "I was out with your wife last night."

When the press came out last week with that release about increase in the technical personnel

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WHEN M-DAY COMES TO AMERICA

What Life in U. S. Will be Like When Country's in War

"What the United States is in for if it should get embroiled in war can be gathered from the 'Industrial Mobilization Plan' prepared by the army," write Pearson and Allen in their Washington Merry-Go-Round column on September 11th.

"Under this plan, Roosevelt's hard fought New Deal reforms will be pretty much scrapped. INSTEAD ALL-POWERFUL CONTROLS ARE TO BE ESTABLISHED WHICH VIRTUALLY CONSTITUTE A DICTATORIAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

"Heart of the new mobilization machine is eight mighty emergency agencies which will be the real rulers of the country. The cabinet (and they should add, what is left of democracy—Ed.) merely sits on the side lines."

The American Legion Monthly for August, 1939, is a bit more confidential.

They're All Ready—Are We?

"There is a group of men in Washington today that spends all its time thinking in terms of M-Day," says this article. "If the United States were to go to war tomorrow they would be ready. Tucked away in the files of the War Department they have an already written law with which they could conscript ten million men. They have files of posters to help sell the war they constantly think of, and thoroughly detailed information on the radio-listening habits of people in all sections of the country. Their files contain sample news and feature stories to be pumped into newspapers . . .

"They have sample registration cards for the draft in every state capitol—ready to go to the printer on a moment's notice and be ground out in million lots. They have maps of locations of the 6,400 boards required to draft men into the service, and lists of personnel to man them . . . Plans are complete even to the number of square feet of floor space required by various agencies. Perhaps it would be annoying to Henry Putty (the average man) if he knew how completely his life has been plan-

DICTATORSHIP IF WE GET MIXED UP IN MODERN WAR.

How the Draft Works

Because boss wars are of course unpopular with the masses, no modern government dreams of raising an army through the volunteer method. They all resort to compulsion, to force, to the draft, to what the United States War Department refers to cutely as the "Selective Service Law."

Roosevelt's War Department long ago drafted such a law which is ready to be presented to Congress with the expectation that it

ned for him. But of course he doesn't know."

Johnson Likes M-Day  
General Hugh S. Johnson, active in the War Industries Board in

M-Day Dictatorship Plans Ape Hitlerism

Here are the eight dictatorial agencies which Roosevelt would call into being on M-Day (the day he declares war):

- 1. War Resources Administration—"To direct productive machinery of country."
2. War Labor Administration—"To control labor" and "provide essential war industries with adequate and peaceful labor supplies."
3. War Trade Administration—"To further the economic isolation of the enemy."
4. Public Relations Administration (Censorship)—"Will commandeer the press, radio, movies, the pulpit and all avenues of information "to insure that the purposes, views and progress of the government in prosecution of the war are properly and adequately presented to the people."
5. Selective Service Administration—"Will direct conscription of man power."
6. Price Control Commission—"Will fix prices, regulate profits, and establish wage scales."
7. War Finance Control Commission—"Will control private investments."
8. Miscellaneous Administration—"To control fuel, coal, power, transportation, etc."

the "First World War to Save the World for Democracy," writes in his syndicated column for August 31st: "I have seen the latest mobilization plan. Its details are naturally confidential, but it betrays no confidence to say that in both form and detail it is one of the best and most compact and complete documents of its kind that I have ever read . . .

"If a new world war should come to us our industrial mobilization could become the most important influence on our daily living. IT COULD BE JUST ABOUT AS IMPORTANT AS THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES. WE CAN'T AVOID AN ECONOMIC

Wife of M. Erwin, 544 Member, Dies

Members of several unions who worked with M. S. Erwin, a member of the General Drivers Union Local 544, commiserated with him at the loss of his wife, Celestine, who died Sunday night in Fairview hospital. The burial will be held Thursday from the Enga funeral home. Interment is at Crystal Lake cemetery.

Mrs. Erwin is survived by her husband and three children, Phyllis, Ralph and Betty. Brother Erwin is employed at the N. W. Charcoal Sales.

inclusive, will be waiting for the call to arms.

"This is the mobilization picture for the first four months of war as envisioned by the Joint Army and Navy Selective Service Committee, which has a recruiting plan complete to the last detail.

Will Set Registration Day

"The President would proclaim a registration day for all men in a certain age group . . . Some 35,000,000 forms would be printed for registering the first 10,000,000 men. About 5,500 local draft boards would be created by Governors.

"Eight days after the President's proclamation, men designated in their age groups would register at their voting precincts and regular election officials would deliver their registration cards to the local boards."

The American Legion Monthly is more blunt still in what the draft will mean. It even goes so far as to draw up a list of the potential cannon fodder that can be expected.

The Legion magazine divides the men of the nation into three age categories: 18 to 21, 21-30, and 30-45.

Two Out of Three

Of the 3,000,000 boys between the ages of 18-21, the Legion anticipates that 2,000,000, or two out of every three boys, will be called to the front! "They are healthy, have fewer responsibilities, and are less valuable to industry than older, better-trained men," explains the Legion article.

Of the 12,000,000 men between the ages of 21-30, about 3,000,000, or one out of every four, will be ordered to the front. Of the 13,000,000 men between the ages of 30-45, about 2,000,000 are marked for the slaughter in its initial stages.

"In the aggregate," conclude the Legionnaires, "the machinery already set up is geared to produce 330,000 men every 80 days; or 4,000,000 every 12 months."

At this rate a nice long war would enable the generals to murder no less than twelve or sixteen American workers.

All these writers, however—General Johnson, the New York Times, and the American Legion Monthly—very carefully refrain from mentioning that the most important section of the war mobilization plan deals with the suppression of labor, control of unions and outlawry of all strikes.

The military dictatorship that is being planned by the War Department, President Roosevelt and the Sixty Families for wartime will crush forever the last trace of capitalist democracy in the United States—IF, IF, IF the American people do not awake and prevent the bosses from carrying out their hideous plans.

Next week: M-Day and Labor.

The Manager and Some 544 Cups



Above is Manager Jack Herman of the championship 544 ball team, with five of the cups won by the Drivers in their successful drive for the city championship. Local 544 also won the city sportsmanship trophy, not included in the above exhibit.

This Saturday at 10:30 a. m., 544 will play the South St. Paul team at the Shakopee ball field in the semi-finals of the State AA tournament. If 544 wins, it will play in the finals Sunday at 1:30 at Shakopee, against either St. Paul or Austin.

544 Nine in State Title Play at Shakopee Saturday and Sunday

Having already won five competition cups and the sportsmanship trophy, the General Drivers Union Local 544 will go to Shakopee this Saturday morning at 10:30 to meet the South St. Paul team in the semi-finals for the state class AA baseball championship. Should the Teamions win, they will play the winner of the Austin-St. Paul game, on Sunday afternoon at 1 p. m. at the Shakopee ball park.

Last Sunday afternoon at Park 6, Local 544 took on the park umpires in an exhibition game which drew over 2,000 fans. The umpires rid their souls of all the bitterness stored up from a season of beefs and boos from the players and fans. The umpires beefed on every play for several innings, much to the delight of the crowd. The arbiters showed some brilliant play to boot, which is not surprising as most of them are well-known ballplayers. Bob Peterson of the Corkies Cafe and Lefty Larson of the North Side Motors pitched for the ump, being the only ringer. The game ended with 544 on the long end of a 10-0 score, Rusin and Alford starring at the plate. Norris and Alford shared duties on the pitchers' mound.

Team Strengthened  
Manager Jack Herman has added two new players to the 544 squad for state play—Ted Johnson of the North Side Motors' team and Fred Wallner, heavy hitter from the Town Pumps. Wallner batted .636 to lead the park league. Both got into Sunday's game with the umpires.

Monday night Herman reported to the 544 membership meeting on the season's play and exhibited five of the cups won by the Drivers. All five cups, two of them huge silver trophies, are now being displayed in the Northwest Organizer window. The meeting voted to give a banquet for the championship ball team on Saturday, September 30th, at a place yet to be determined.

Park Head Praises 544 Team  
In a letter received Monday by Jack Herman, W. H. Fox, director of park board athletics, congratulates "the members of the team for the splendid way in which you won the city championship this year in baseball."

"I would like to have you tell the officers of your organization that they should feel proud of the Local 544 baseball team," wrote Fox. "On the field and off the field they have occasioned a great deal of favorable comment."

There is no doubt but that 544 was the most popular team in the park circuit this year. It drew more fans than any other team. Thousands of Minneapolis ball fans are expected to journey to Shakopee Saturday and Sunday for the state tournament.

The following players have been deemed eligible to play in the state tournament for 544: Norris Hanson, John Sodd, Syd Alford, Howard McPartian, George Masoligites, Joe Rusin, Cliff Johnson, Tom Sirany, Clayton Becker, Edward Pulaski, Fred Walner, Ted Johnson, Tony Pazik and Ed Crandall.

ANOTHER LOAD From City and Sanitary Drivers Local 664

By Wally Raze  
"The melancholy days are come— The saddest of the year— 'Tain't cold enough to swizzle rum, But too darned cold for beer."

Went fishing Sunday and got the limit of crappies. As usual, got the same number of pains in the posterior. The boat seat, as well as my own, was meagerly upholstered. Oh well, you can't have everything.

Brother Mike Kanasky is on his vacation and is doubtless enjoying himself. Mike is one of those fortunate lads who can enjoy himself anywhere, any time.

Brother McBride is assigned permanently to Hiawatha and Brother Grasse is now at Lake of the Isles.

Brother Brick Heller snagged a seven-pound northern pike out of Lake Harriet Sunday.

Monday your commentator was called upon to do some fast and furious figurin' when the deluge started. The result was a hole cut in the center of a hunk of canvas. Crude but very effective.

No news this week from Glenwood, except a visit by a convention of nursery, golf course and park experts from all over the country. There is evidently a lull in the affairs of "Honey-Chile" and his pal. Brother Bert is glad he wasn't in on their last one.

Brother Knight heatedly denied that his fracas with a field mouse was merely an idle rumor. Says he can, in private, show numerous toothmarks on his anatomy to prove that it's too, too true.

Brother Bill Holder just called up, saying there's a stewards' meeting slated for Tuesday night.

Brothers Fisher and Strom are on their vacations.

The power of concerted labor action should be very evident to everyone who has knowledge of the recent great reduction in bail requirements for the WPA strike defendants. This concerted action had even a temporizing effect on the courts and judges. It doesn't appear, now, that all those indicted will be arrested. As for those now locked up in jail, let's all stick together and fight for their freedom and vindication. No real union man can do less and maintain a clear conscience.

A banquet is scheduled for Friday evening at Harry's Cafe at which the editorial staff and the columnists of the Northwest Organizer will get acquainted and compare ideas and methods by which our paper may be improved and made more interesting and vital to the workers of the Northwest. I feel confident that the outcome of this get-together will be beneficial to all of us.

Believing that there is only one way of eliminating cheap competition, namely, to sign them up and educate them, we're going to do just that. Then there is also the matter of a few of our former good members who fall by the wayside (reasons unknown).

Anyhow, our good samaritans will stop by and find out what might be ailing them.

And a few employers will be notified that their chauffeurs are no longer in good standing with this local.

It may well be that those employers will figure that it might be safer to ride with a good union man—that if a chauffeur has the decency and self-respect to belong to the organization that represents his trade, he would also be reliable enough to furnish his employer safe transportation.

Regardless of how little love our present governor has for organized labor (and we think it's mutual), he certainly must figure like that, because his chauffeur is one of our good members.

In closing, we can't ignore the world war, so here is something we would like to have you ponder over while you still have the time.

As a citizen you are entitled to vote for president, governor, mayor and even alderman, not to mention such a simple thing as a charter amendment. But when it comes to going to war some place for democracy (which we supposedly already have) you haven't a thing to say about it.

If you can all find the same answer that we did, then let's all work for A POPULAR REFERENDUM ON WAR.

and must follow the same. We sympathize with such unfortunate cases but it takes many dollars to reinstate them. If you must skip a payment, jump any except your union dues; pay them promptly every month.

Shelby Tennis was down in St. Louis so he gave the milk business the once-over. Union wages there are forty per week with commission starting at 209 points, six days a week but only one week paid vacation. They are on a late delivery system; in fact the system is slow motion. They walk into the house and ask the "old girl" what she wants and then go back to the truck after it. Wages for inside workers are very poor.

Arnold Anderson carried away the prize at the last membership meeting; it means free dues and assessments for him this month. Arnold always was lucky, anyway; so are some other members but they do not attend meeting. Numbers 1621, 138 and 1380 could have won.

The Urban Society contacted Brother Sinnott last week to take steps to get Colored representation on our milk rigs. Years back Rice County had such a driver but he dropped out. Local 471 has never shown prejudice against race or creed. One large creamery holds certain types of work for them exclusively.

Congratulations to Les Cummings on that fine baby boy and thanks for the cigars.

Raymond Bergman, inside worker at the Oak Grove plant at Norwood, is getting married Sunday, September 17th. We wish you the best of luck, Ray.

With the Limousines

"Home James" Just in case you don't know it, this is the official outlet of steam for the Private Chauffeurs Local 912.

The fink drive you've heard so much about is ready to commence, and as brother Jack K. would say, "It's about time."

Beginning next Monday our organizers will be out working, and that's the sign for all you brothers in good standing to give them a glad hand and tell them where to find the "prospects."

When we say "prospects" we mean anyone with a chauffeur's license, (with or without a monkey cap), driving a limousine for pay.

We aren't particularly fond of finks, but there is such a thing as education, even for the numbest of skulls.

Believing that there is only one way of eliminating cheap competition, namely, to sign them up and educate them, we're going to do just that. Then there is also the matter of a few of our former good members who fall by the wayside (reasons unknown).

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If you can all find the same answer that we did, then let's all work for A POPULAR REFERENDUM ON WAR.

The man who enjoys marching in file to the strains of martial music falls beneath my contempt; he received his brain by mistake—the spinal cord would have been amply sufficient.—ALBERT EINSTEIN.

HERE'S GOOD NEWS!!

\$13,305

will be returned to members of COOPERATIVE SERVICES

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# Northwest Organizer

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When I ply my needle, trowel or pick  
I'm a decent Sheehey, Wop or Mick,  
But when I strike I'm a Bolshevik  
I'm Labor.

## The Open Letter

(Continued from page 1)

We are almost embarrassed to quote from your editorial of that day. You called it the "Only Thing to Do."

"It will then be for Congress to say whether the United States, in fulfillment of its duty to itself and to the world, shall become a sharer in the task of gaining for democracy and civilization a victory over Prussian autocracy and its ruthless forms of violence and oppression."

You wrote this on the day Congress was sitting to decide on the declaration of war against Germany.

From your pacifism of the start of the war, you went all the way over, to become the blatant leader of the war-mongering pack that urged the people on to war—"for democracy and civilization," you said, with the rest.

The next day you turned viciously on the pacifists and your own former position. "Perhaps the pacifists are consistent in demanding a referendum on the war question," you wrote on April 2nd, 1917. "The delay that would be occasioned by the taking of a referendum would be of big benefit to the nation's enemies, and that seems to be what some of the professional pacifists desire."

So you see, gentlemen, WE DOUBT YOU. We don't believe in your pacific protestations today, because we think you will repeat your performance of the First World War.

And how effective a trick it was! The Minneapolis Tribune, the leader of the anti-war sentiment in the Northwest, endorsing the war. Why, if the Tribune, who hates war, endorses the war, the war MUST be a good war, a just war.

WHAT ASSURANCES CAN YOU GIVE US TODAY THAT YOU WON'T REPEAT YOUR PERFORMANCE OF 1917?

### How About This?

You say today that you oppose entry of the United States into this war. But you haven't opposed each step that the war-makers have taken to put us where we are today. And you haven't supported the effective moves which the anti-war forces have made to keep us out of the war.

You didn't oppose, you applauded President Roosevelt as each year he has increased armament expenditures. And yet the very slogan of "national defense" is nothing but a slogan to justify war, to recognize it as legitimate and just.

Millions of members of organized labor opposed Roosevelt's armament expenditures and asked, instead, that all war funds be turned over to the unemployed.

You have applauded each step of Roosevelt's that has carried him deeper and deeper into the European crisis—his war-mongering speech of October, 1937—his spy scares and spy trials from New York to California—his welcome to the "democratic" royalty of Europe and to the "democratic" dictators of Latin America—his tough policy with Japan and his denunciation of the Japanese trade treaty. These moves were hailed by both parties in Congress and by yourself. More recently, you have supported the President in his move to revise the present neutrality bill, a move that leads us still closer to the war.

### What Can Mere Pacifism Accomplish?

Of what use is your present pacifism, even if you maintain it? Mere expressions of pacifism, no matter how sincere, cannot stop the rulers of the United States from carrying us into war. There have never been so many pacifists as at this very moment, when people are slaying each other on all the great highways of our planet.

But when the pacifists attempted to implement their hatred of war by supporting the war referendum plan introduced by Representative Ludlow of Indiana into the House of Representatives several years ago, you opposed it. Now Ludlow in the House, and Senator LaFollette in the Senate, announce they are going to reintroduce their proposal for a popular referendum on war at the next session of Congress.

### Will You Support the War Referendum?

Here is your great opportunity to show your readers you MEAN what you say when you write against war. Will you support this referendum?

The Minneapolis Central Labor Union supports it.

No just argument can possibly be brought up against the idea of the popular referendum on war.

If the United States has a representative form of government, what is the government supposed to represent? The will of the people, of course. No question is more important than that of war. If those who claim to represent the people believe that the nation should enter the war, then a popular vote on the issue could only help to prove whether they are in truth representatives. If a freely conducted popular vote went against the war which the government proposed, that would prove that the government did not really represent the will of the people; if it went in favor of the war, the government would be strengthened as the genuine representative of the people.

## Wilson Was "Neutral" Too!

# LET THE PEOPLE VOTE ON WAR!

AMERICA WILL BE NEUTRAL!



If you mean it when you say you oppose the entry of the United States into the Second World War, will you now give support to the forces of organized labor and join with them in demanding of Congress that it submit at once to the several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which will provide that any proposal for the declaration of war against any nation shall be submitted to a direct referendum vote of the people of the United States?

Do this, and we will temper our doubts about the sincerity of your pacifism.

Or if you won't do this, will you even pledge your readers that six months from now—three months from now, even—you will still be featuring your appeals to the youth and the mothers and fathers to join in the struggle to keep the United States out of war?

Permit us to doubt you, gentlemen.

What are you going to do when the big Nicollet avenue merchants and the wealthy national corporations whose advertising supports your paper get accustomed to the swollen wartime profits and question you about your anti-war stand? What are you going to do when the barrage of pro-war propaganda grows even more intense and dins in your ears and eyes from the signboards and the radio and the screen and the pulpit? What are you going to do when the "patriotic" hoodlums organized by the professional patriots into so-called "Legions of Democracy" start to show their concern for democracy by ganging up on all those who oppose war?

### When M-Day Comes—

What are you going to do when M-Day comes, when the President's censorship begins to work, when the government begins to apply the "priority" provisions of the Industrial Mobilization Plan by which it can deprive a given newspaper of paper, ink and all other supplies and thereby suppress it if it opposes the war and the war-makers?

Are you still going to advise the people of the Northwest to oppose the war, and thereby risk the large investment represented by your newspaper establishment? Or will you do what you did in 1917: turn and run with the pack, to hound the steadfast true patriots who serve their country and humanity by opposing this mass-murder in defense of the profits of the world's rulers? Will you live to gag on the words you have written during the past few weeks?

As you see, we are deeply cynical about your ability to maintain your anti-war position. We believe that no boss paper can long remain opposed to the government's participation in this war, just as we believe that no labor paper can honestly do anything but oppose the war to the very end.

The rich will profit from this war, as they do from all imperialist wars. The laboring people will lose from this war, as they do from all imperialist wars.

War brings immense profit to the business and financial interests. In an emergency such as a war, the necessary munitions and supplies must be had, and the going price must be paid. The gains of war go to the wealthy—the losses of war go to the working people. It is the workers who occupy the key place in war industry, who are forced under war conditions to submit to wage cuts, to speed-up. It is the workers who are in the majority on the battlefield.

The Northwest Organizer believes that what remains real about American democracy will be faithful to itself if it does not join one or the other of the imperialist forces, if it says that "both are worst," if it wishes the defeat of the rulers in every country.

The Northwest Organizer believes that a war for democracy is well worth fighting. But such a war is not the war of Chamberlain, Hitler, Beck, Daladier or Roosevelt. The only war for democracy is the struggle against their war. This is where the interests of the laboring people, and of humanity, lie, and this is the position the Northwest Organizer shall maintain.

The Northwest Organizer P. S. If the editors of the Minneapolis Times-Tribune wish to answer our Open Letter, we shall be pleased to give their answer the same prominence enjoyed by this letter. Our readers await the answer of the Times-Tribune.

## 160 Votes \$500 to WPA Defense Fund

At a special meeting of the Utility Workers Union Local 160, I.B.E.W., held Thursday night, September 7th, the membership voted unanimously to concur in the recommendation of the union executive board that \$500 be donated to the Central Labor Union's WPA Defense Committee.

Teasdale, reporting for Local 160's executive board, read off the motion "recommending a donation to the Central Labor Union's WPA defense fund of \$500 out of the union treasury, and that the membership vote a voluntary assessment of 50c per member to reimburse the local union treasury." An amendment added the clause that the financial secretary is to prepare a list of the brothers paying the assessment, such list to be read at the next several membership meetings. Both motion and amendment carried unanimously.

William Heigel announced that the St. Cloud and St. Croix sections of Local 160 would take action at their own meetings on the letter from the Minneapolis Central Labor Union WPA Defense Committee.

When you build a prison, you had better build with the thought ever in mind that you and your children may occupy the cells.—ELIZABETH FRY, prison report to the French government.

## On the National Picket Line

(Continued from page 1)

lent and the common attitude seems to be "Well, I don't want to go to war, but I suppose I'll have to."

Last Sunday the World Herald of Omaha published an article in its magazine section called "If this were M-Day in Nebraska" in which it explained in detail the various and sundry details of the M-Day Plan and how it would be carried out in this state.

The paragraph dealing with the duties of the publicity director is really a classic in describing the duties of this press agent of Death! His duties shall be "to distribute all propaganda material, movie shorts, bill boards, radio speeches, etc. He is to arrange for 'Goodbye Parades,' patriotic mass meetings, and spend his entire time in developing public sentiment and good will toward fast and voluntary enlistment."

During the pre-draft period of the last war, "only 86 thousand" men volunteered for service. It is not intended that this shall happen this time. No stone will be left unturned to get as many Nebraskans—as well as those from all other states—to volunteer to give up their lives for the "protection" of the American Sixty Families' interests all over the world. Jingoism in its most virulent form is, has been, and will continue to flood the avenues of communication.

Were you alive during the last war? Can you remember, as a small child, wondering about the small flags which hung in almost every

window in your neighborhood? Small flags, bordered in red, with a field of white, on which there were one, two and sometimes three small blue stars, depending on how many sons or brothers that family had sent to the Great Carnage. And do you remember how often, very often, those blue stars were exchanged for gold stars? And how every time a blue star in the window changed to gold all the other homes where there were blue stars became dark caverns of misery as the mother and father met the postman each day, afraid that it might be their time to receive that awful letter which began—

"We regret to inform you that your son died gloriously in action at \_\_\_\_\_"

## Co-op Oil Customers Get \$13,305 In Refunds

"Pardon us, Mr. Consumer, we overcharged you on your purchases from us during the past year. Here is a refund representing the overcharges."

That's a statement no consumer ever expects to hear from the profit-making business men of this city, yet one business is in essence saying and doing that very thing this week.

The business, Cooperative Services, Inc., local consumer co-op, made profits of \$13,305 on its last year's gasoline and oil sales of \$270,000 and the profits are being returned to the consumers in proportion to the purchases they made from the co-op stations. Cooperative Stations, Inc., is 100 percent union.

I do not care who makes the laws of a country, if I can get out an injunction.—MISTER DOOLEY. (Peter Finley Dunne.)

## Welfare Board Orders 25% Cut in Relief

In the face of skyrocketing living costs the Minneapolis board of public welfare, meeting in special session Tuesday afternoon, ordered a reduction of 25 per cent in grocery and milk allowances effective September 18th. This cruel move has thrown the thousands of relief families in the city into turmoil.

The welfare board attempted to justify its actions by pointing to the lures laid down Monday by Stassen's state legislative emergency committee. The board also referred to the possible introduction of the federal surplus commodities corporation "orange and blue" food stamp plan as justification for this wholesale cut in direct relief.

Only member of the board to oppose the cut in the relief grocery allowance was Alderman A. G. Bastis. Leach, I. S. Joseph, Baxter and Wieder voted aye.

Taken together with the phenomenal rise in living costs, the Minneapolis unemployed will receive almost a fifty percent reduction as a result of the board's action.

The Federal Workers Section had previously warned the welfare board against relief cuts in view of skyrocketing living costs.

### FWS Fights Cut

A mass meeting of five hundred called by the FWS last Friday night unanimously adopted a resolution "That we hereby serve formal notice on the Minneapolis Board of Estimate and Taxation which meets next Monday and Tuesday that we have no intention of accepting any reduction in our living standards and therefore we shall expect that body to duly recognize the skyrocketing of living costs resulting from the war situation and speculation, and to be prepared to cover any increased cost of at least maintaining our present minimums in terms of food, clothing and incidentals on relief."

Instead of making due allowance for the increase in living costs and adjusting the grocery allowances upward, the board of public welfare has utilized the present opportunity to deal the unemployed a staggering blow. Dozens of worried families milled around the FWS office Wednesday morning discussing the relief

## FWS Favors Referendum On the War

A referendum calling upon Congress to prepare a special amendment at the special session placing the power to declare war in the hands of the people through a popular referendum on war was unanimously endorsed at a mass meeting held by the Federal Workers Section of Local 544 last Friday night.

The resolution supporting the referendum idea points out that "the national administration, through its open support of one set of imperialist handouts against the other set, threatens to involve us again in a fake 'War for Democracy,' and

"Whereas, the workers have no interests to defend abroad, and

"Whereas, the day war is declared the government will proclaim its M-Day military dictatorship and take away the remnants of democracy that still remain, and

"Whereas, we have our hands full at home fighting our war against unemployment and for relief and jobs and decent wages, etc.

Journalism is buying white paper at two cents a pound and selling it at ten cents a pound.—CHARLES A. DANA.

## Armour Country Trucking Signs Drivers Area Pact

Chicago, Ill.—Climaxing a series of negotiations lasting over three months, the Country Trucking Division of the Armour Packing company agreed early this week to the standard area pact for drivers and signed supplements to cover their over-road operations in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, northern Wisconsin, and the upper peninsula of Michigan.

The agreement between the drivers and the Armour corporation will go into effect at 12:01 a. m. Sunday, September 17. The negotiating committee representing the drivers unions consisted of Bill Hollingsworth of Kansas City, Jack Worth of Fargo, Art Hudson of St. Paul, Tom Williams of Minneapolis, Pease of Mason City, Al Russell of Omaha and Jack Maloney of Sioux City.

The agreement provides for system seniority in the area. The supplement contains provisions for moving of drivers' household goods and personal property and for transportation.

In addition to the hundreds of drivers involved, all dock workers are also covered by the agreement.

## UNION MEETING SCHEDULE

<b>LOCAL 471</b> General Membership — First and third Tuesdays each month 7 p. m. Girls' Section—Second Tuesday each month (7:30 p. m.)	<b>LOCAL 160</b> General Membership — Third Thursday Seniority Board—Every Monday Executive Board—Every Tuesday Stewards—First Thursday
<b>LOCAL 131</b> Second Thursday each month, 8 p. m., third-floor.	<b>LOCAL 221</b> Day Laborer Section — First Tuesday each month. Independent Truck Owners Section—Second Tuesday each month.
<b>LOCAL 259</b> Second Monday of each month.	<b>LOCAL 1859</b> Sept. 6—General Membership Sept. 12—Casket Section Sept. 19—Box Industry Sept. 20—J. R. Clark, Keller Manufacturing Sept. 22 — Warren Shade, American Excelsior, Trav-L-Eez and Kozekar, Air-Loc Seating, American Wicker Works Every Friday night—Executive Board 1st, 3rd Thursdays, 8 p. m.—Grievance Board Sept. 11th, 26th — Twin City Stewards October 4—General Membership
<b>LOCAL 664</b> The City and Sanitary Drivers will meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Park Board Grievance Committee — Monday night preceding the last meeting of the month.	<b>LOCAL 20481</b> Oct. 4th—General Membership
<b>LOCAL 1086</b> The Retail Clerks Local 1086 will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.	<b>LOCAL 958</b> Night Drivers — 1:00 P. m. third Thursday each month. Day Drivers—7:00 p. m. third Thursday each month.
<b>PETROLEUM DRIVERS</b> Regular Membership Meeting—First Wednesday each month.	<b>LOCAL 544</b> SEPTEMBER Friday, September 1 — Job Stewards Wednesday, September 6—Sausage, Petroleum Thursday, September 7 — Greenhouse, ITO Friday, September 8—Wholesale Grocery, Meat Drivers Monday, September 11—General Membership Meeting Tuesday, September 12—Lumber Wednesday, September 13 — Market, Wholesale Liquor Friday, September 15 — Job Stewards Sunday, September 17—Over-the-Road Drivers (10 A. M.) Monday, September 18—Furniture Stores, Coal, Printing Thursday, September 21—Excavating Drivers, Tent and Awning, Newspaper (10 A. M.) Friday, September 22 — Cold Storage Monday, September 25—Spring Water Tuesday, September 26—Sand and Gravel Wednesday, September 27 — Wholesale Paper Thursday, September 28 — Transfer and Warehouse, Wholesale Drug Seniority Committee meets each Tuesday at 7 P. M. in Hall 3 Grievance Committee meets each Tuesday and Friday at 7 P. M. in Local 544 office The Executive Board meets each Wednesday at 10 A. M. in the large hall on the first floor All regular meetings start at 8 P. M. unless otherwise indicated
<b>LOCAL 977</b> General Membership — Second Monday each month, 9 p. m. Grievance and Seniority Boards — Each Monday, 8 p. m. Stewards—Fourth Monday, 9 p. m. Executive Board—Each Thursday, 8 p. m. Lessee Section—Third Wednesday, 9 p. m.	<b>FEDERAL WORKERS</b> Regular Membership Meeting—Second Friday each month. Stewards' Meeting — Every Wednesday, 8 p. m. Veterans Meeting—Every Saturday, 10:30 a. m.
<b>LOCAL 289</b> Retail Drivers—First Thursday. Wholesale Drivers — Second Thursday. Yeast Drivers—Third Thursday. Cake and Pie—Third Thursday. General Membership — Fourth Thursday. Inside Workers—Last Saturday, 3 p. m.	<b>LOCAL 346</b> Regular Membership Meeting 2nd Monday each month, 8:30 p. m. 4th Monday each month, 1:30 p. m.
<b>LOCAL 103</b> Regular Membership Meeting—First Monday each month. Executive Committee Meeting On call.	<b>PRIVATE CHAUFFEURS</b> The Private Chauffeurs and Helpers Local 912 meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month.
<b>LOCAL 275</b> Tea and Coffee Drivers, Local 275, meets the first Friday of every month.	<b>LOCAL 359</b> Stewards — First and Third Tuesday. Regular Membership Meeting—Fourth Tuesday. Executive Board — Regularly every Monday.